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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/199,604	11/25/1998	DAVID A. SOBESKI	777.172US1	3888

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EXAMINER

COURTENAY III, ST JOHN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2151

DATE MAILED: 06/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/199,604

Applicant(s)
Sobeski et al.

Examiner
St. John Courtenay III

Art Unit
2151



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 25, 1998
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

ST. JOHN COURTENAY III
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2,3,4 6) ☐ Other:

Detailed Action

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1— 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pugh et al. (U.S. Patent 6,088,739).

As per independent claim 1:

Pugh teaches a system comprising:

- an object having a plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "composite object" and the addition and deletion of associated role objects, as discussed beginning col. 5, lines 50-67, continued, col. 6,] ;
- a data store to store data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "composite object" and its capability to include (i.e., store) associated "role objects," see discussion beginning col. 6, line 3; see list and database discussion col. 14, beginning line 54]; and,
- an application to instantiate the object from the data stored in the data store regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors, wherein the object instantiates at

least one of the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3] .

As per claim 2:

Pugh teaches the data store is within the object [e.g., see "role object" discussion beginning col. 6, line 2].

As per claim 3:

Pugh teaches less than all of the plurality of dynamic behaviors of the object are instantiated [e.g., see "producer object" discussion beginning col. 13, line 63, and continued in col. 14] .

As per claim 4:

Pugh teaches the object determines at run-time which of the plurality of dynamic behaviors to instantiate [e.g., see "producer object" discussion beginning col. 14, line 6].

As per claim 5:

Pugh teaches the object comprises a Component Object Model (COM) object [e.g., see discussion beginning col. 14, line 8] .

As per claim 6:

Pugh teaches the plurality of dynamic behaviors comprises at least one selected from the group essentially consisting of: a plurality of objects, a plurality of methods, and a plurality of events [see "register-role", and associated discussion beginning col. 10, line 10].

As per claim 7:

Pugh teaches the data store comprises a registry [e.g., see "register_role" discussion beginning col. 11, line 66, col. 12, lines 59-67, cont'd col. 13; see also "registered properties" col. 14, line 34 and associated discussion; see also "register-role", and associated discussion beginning col. 10, line 10] .

As per claim 8:

Pugh teaches the plurality of dynamic behaviors comprises a plurality of system-defined behaviors and a plurality of application-defined behaviors [e.g., see "role object"

discussion beginning col. 6, line 2, and “composite objects,” as cited above in the previous rejections].

As per independent claim 9:

This claim is rejected for the same reasons detailed above in the rejection of independent claim 1, and also for the following additional reasons:

Pugh teaches a method comprising:

- receiving a command to instantiate an object having a plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3 – a function call is equivalent to a command] .
- looking up data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors in a data store [see role list object” discussion , col. 8, beginning line 30]; and,
- instantiating the object from the data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors in the data store [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3] .

As per claims 10-13:

Pugh teaches changing the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "dynamically adds an interface to an object’s list of supported interfaces" and associated discussion beginning col. 10, line 11].

As per claim 14:

Pugh teaches looking up data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors in the data store as have been changed [see role list object” discussion , col. 8, beginning line 30]; and, instantiating the object from the data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors as have been changed stored in the data store [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3].

As per claim 15:

Pugh teaches instantiating a second object to provide data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors [see role list object” discussion , col. 8, beginning line 30]; and, instantiating the object from the data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3]

As per independent claim 16:

Pugh teaches a computer-readable medium having data stored thereon representing:

- an object having a plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "composite object" and the addition and deletion of associated role objects, as discussed beginning col. 5, lines 50-67, continued, col. 6,] ;
- a data store to store data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "composite object" and its capability to include (i.e., store) associated “role objects,” see discussion beginning col. 6, line 3; see list and database discussion col. 14, beginning line 54]; and,
- an application to instantiate the object from the data stored in the data store regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3].

As per independent claim 17:

This claim is rejected for the same reasons detailed above in the rejection of the preceding independent claims, and also for the following additional reasons:

Pugh teaches a computer-readable medium having a computer program stored thereon for execution on a computer, the program performing the method comprising:

- receiving a command to instantiate an object having a plurality of dynamic behaviors; looking up data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors in a data store [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3 – a function call is equivalent to a command] ;

instantiating the object from the data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors in the data store [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3];

- changing the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "register-role" discussion beginning col. 10, line 10] ;
- looking up data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors in the data store as have been changed [see role list object" discussion , col. 8, beginning line 30]; and,
- instantiating the object from the data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors as have been changed stored in the data store [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3].

As per independent claim 18:

This claim is rejected for the same reasons detailed above in the rejection of the preceding independent claims, and also for the following additional reasons:

Pugh teaches a computer comprising:

- a memory; a processor [inherent];
- a data store of the memory to store data regarding a plurality of dynamic behaviors of an object [e.g., see "composite object" and its capability to include (i.e., store) associated "role objects," see discussion beginning col. 6, line 3; see list and database discussion col. 14, beginning line 54]; and,
- an application executed by the processor from the memory to instantiate the object from the data stored in the data store regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors [e.g., see "create an instance" discussion beginning col. 7, line 3].

As per claim 19:

Pugh teaches the object comprises a Component Object Model (COM) object, and the data store comprises a registry [see the rejections of claims 5 & 7 above].

Obviousness-type double patenting Rejection:

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the “right to exclude” granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

"Double patenting rejection of application claims was fully justified where applicant, in course of expanding first application to disclose enough more by way of details, alternatives, and additional uses to support broad, dominating, generic claims in later applications, has disclosed no additional invention or discovery other than that what was already claimed in patent on first application; there is significant difference between justifying broadening of claims and disclosing additional inventions." *In re Van Ornum*, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982).

Claims 1-19 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of co-pending application 09/200,674, now U.S. Patent 6,304,879 (Sobeski et al.).

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of corresponding language that recites many of the same elements and functions claimed in the previously patented invention, e.g., “dynamic property” (i.e., “dynamic behaviors”), “data store” (i.e., “temporary store”), “received command” (i.e., “receiving a command”), “change data command” (i.e., “changing the plurality of dynamic behaviors”), etc.

The claimed differences would be obvious to a programmer of ordinary skill because the instant claims are merely broader and/or alternate variations of the claims recited in the co-pending case.

For example, independent claim 1 of the instant case more broadly and/or alternately claims:

"A system comprising: an object having a plurality of dynamic behaviors; a data store to store data regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors; and, an application to instantiate the object from the data stored in the data store regarding the plurality of dynamic behaviors, wherein the object instantiates at least one of the plurality of dynamic behaviors."

In contrast, claim 1 of the co-pending case (U.S. Patent 6,304,879) more narrowly and/or alternately claims:

" A system comprising:

a container object comprising

a data object having at least one static property,

a data cache object through which all access to the at least one static property of the data object is made and to temporarily store at least one dynamic property for the data object,

a controller object through which all access to the data cache object is made via at least one of messages and events,

at least one internal object to access the at least one static property and the at least one dynamic property; and

at least one external object to access the at least one static property and the at least one dynamic property, wherein the external object is external to the container object, and wherein the container object, the data object, the data cache object, the controller object, the at least one internal object, and the at least one external object all comprise respective encapsulated data and a respective method for accessing the respective encapsulated data in an object-oriented computing environment.

Because the instant claims merely eliminate and/or alternately claim limitations from the set of elements and functions claimed in the co-pending case, such modifications would be readily apparent to a programmer of ordinary skill.

Terminal Disclaimer

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b). Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

For post GATT applications, (i.e., applications filed after June 8, 1995), the rule § 1.321 (4) (c) (3) requires a provision that must be included. The following requirement is UNCHANGED by GATT and therefore a terminal disclaimer is required for the instant application, i.e., “shall be enforceable only for and during such period that said patent is commonly owned with the application or patent which formed the basis for the rejection.”

§ 1.321 Statutory disclaimers, including terminal disclaimers.

(a) A patentee owning the whole or any sectional interest in a patent may disclaim any complete claim or claims in a patent. In like manner any patentee may disclaim or dedicate to the public the entire term, or any terminal part of the term, of the patent granted. Such disclaimer is binding upon the grantee and its successors or assigns. A notice of the disclaimer is published in the Official Gazette and attached to the printed copies of the specification. The disclaimer, to be recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office, must:

- (1) Be signed by the patentee, or an attorney or agent of record;
 - (2) Identify the patent and complete claim or claims, or term being disclaimed. A disclaimer which is not a disclaimer of a complete claim or claims, or term will be refused recordation;
 - (3) State the present extent of patentee's ownership interest in the patent; and
 - (4) Be accompanied by the fee set forth in § 1.20(d).
- (b) An applicant or assignee may disclaim or dedicate to the public the entire term, or any terminal

part of the term, of a patent to be granted. Such terminal disclaimer is binding upon the grantee and its successors or assigns. The terminal disclaimer, to be recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office, must:

(1) Be signed:

(i) By the applicant, or

(ii) If there is an assignee of record of an undivided part interest, by the applicant and such assignee, or

(iii) If there is an assignee of record of the entire interest, by such assignee, or

(iv) By an attorney or agent of record;

(2) Specify the portion of the term of the patent being disclaimed;

(3) State the present extent of applicant's or assignee's ownership interest in the patent to be granted; and

(4) Be accompanied by the fee set forth in § 1.20(d).

(c) A terminal disclaimer, when filed to obviate a judicially created double patenting rejection in a patent application or in a reexamination proceeding, must:

(1) Comply with the provisions of paragraphs (b)(2) through (b)(4) of this section;

(2) Be signed in accordance with paragraph (b)(1) of this section if filed in a patent application or in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section if filed in a reexamination proceeding; and

(3) Include a provision that any patent granted on that application or any patent subject to the reexamination proceeding **shall be enforceable only for and during such period that said patent is commonly owned with the application or patent which formed the basis for the rejection.**

[47 FR 41281, Sept. 17, 1982, effective Oct. 1, 1982; revised, 58 FR 54504, Oct. 22, 1993, effective Jan. 3, 1994; para. (c) revised, 61 FR 42790, Aug. 19, 1996, effective Sept. 23, 1996]

Prior Art not relied upon:

Please refer to the references listed on the attached PTO-892 which are not relied upon in the claim rejections detailed above.

Objective — Reducing and Simplifying the areas of disagreement:

- The Examiner solicits Applicant's cooperation in *reducing and simplifying the areas of disagreement* by doing the following: 1) amending the independent claims in a manner fully supported by the specification to clearly distinguish over the prior art of record, AND/OR 2) directing clear and concise arguments to the *specific claim language and claim elements* that Applicant believes are not fairly taught nor suggested by the cited prior art of record. Applicant should cancel claims where appropriate. Applicant should preferably avoid arguing general differences between the cited references and the instant invention as disclosed in the specification. Your cooperation is appreciated.

• M.P.E.P. 2001.06(b) Information Relating to or from Copending United States Patent Applications

The individuals covered by 37 CFR 1.56 have a duty to bring to the attention of the examiner, or other Office official involved with the examination of a particular application, information within their knowledge as to other copending United States applications which are "material to patentability" of the application in Question, as set forth by the Court in *Armour & Co. v. Swift & Co.*, 175 USPQ 70, 79 (7th Cir. 1972).

Please help prevent these common application filing problems:

Please verify the CORRECT SERIAL NUMBER in all responses:

- All incoming papers received by the PTO are matched with the application file by application serial number. Failure to include a correct application serial number on PTO correspondence will result in significant processing delays. The use of the correct PTO application serial number is required on all future correspondence.

Please verify your CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS:

- If your mailing address changes after the filing of the instant application you must promptly notify the PTO of your CHANGE OF ADDRESS to prevent PTO correspondence being returned by the Post Office as undeliverable. It is preferable to submit your CHANGE OF ADDRESS and/or POWER of ATTORNEY papers separately from all other submitted responses to ensure entry by docketing personnel and avoid confusion with other papers.

Please avoid filing DUPLICATE PAPERS:

- The most reliable way to communicate with the PTO is via FAX using the numbers given on the last page of this office action. Please avoid the confusion of filing duplicate papers. If every applicant submits a duplicate paper with each response, then the efficiency of the PTO teams that match the incoming papers with the file wrapper is reduced by 50 percent. The filing of redundant papers slows down the PTO processing time for ALL applicants.

Please DO NOT include hyperlinks in your specification:**Hyperlinks and Other Forms of Browser-Executable Code in the Specification**

Examiners must review patent applications to make certain that hyperlinks and other forms of browser-executable code, especially commercial site URLs, are not included in a patent application. Examples of a hyperlink or a browser-executable code are a URL placed between these symbols "< >" and http:// followed by a URL address. When a patent application with embedded hyperlinks and/or other forms of browser-executable code issues as a patent (or is published as a patent application publication) and the patent document is placed on the USPTO web page, when the patent document is retrieved and viewed via a web browser, the URL is interpreted as a valid HTML code and it becomes a live web link. When a user clicks on the link with a mouse, the user will be transferred to another web page identified by the URL, if it exists, which could be a commercial web site. USPTO policy does not permit the USPTO to link to any commercial sites since the USPTO exercises no control over the organization, views or accuracy of the information contained on these outside sites.

If hyperlinks and/or other forms of browser-executable code are embedded in the text of the patent application, examiners should object to the specification and indicate to applicants that the embedded hyperlinks and/or other forms of browser-executable code are impermissible and require deletion. **This requirement does not apply to electronic documents listed on forms PTO-892 and PTO-1449 where the electronic document is identified by reference to a URL.**

The attempt to incorporate subject matter into the patent application by reference to a hyperlink and/or other forms of browser-executable code is considered to be an improper incorporation by reference. See MPEP § 608.01(p), paragraph I regarding incorporation by reference. Where the hyperlinks and/or other forms of browser-executable codes are part of applicant's invention and it is necessary to have them included in the patent application in order to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and applicant does not intend to have these hyperlinks be active links, examiners should not object to these hyperlinks. The Office will disable these hyperlinks when preparing the text to be loaded onto the USPTO web database.

Please help prevent common amendment problems:

Format of Amended Claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121:

37 CFR § 1.121 amendments were optional on November 7, 2000 and became mandatory on March 1, 2001.

- Please help expedite the prosecution of this application by including a clean set of all pending claims, consolidating all previous versions of pending claims from a series of separate amendments into a single clean version in a single amendment paper. This submission of a clean version of all of the pending claims will be construed as directing the cancellation of all previous versions of any pending claims. No marked-up version will be required to accompany the clean version where no changes other than the consolidation are being made. **37 CFR § 1.121.**

- **For details of the PBG final rules please refer to the following PTO website:**

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/olia/pbg/index.html>

Please Help Avoid Claim Numbering Problems:

37 C.F.R. § 1.126 - Numbering of Claims

- The original numbering of the claims must be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When claims are added, they must be numbered by the applicant consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim previously presented (whether entered or not). When the application is ready for allowance, the examiner, if necessary, will renumber the claims consecutively in the order in which they appear or in such order as may have been requested by applicant. [32 FR 13583, Sept. 28, 1967; revised, 62 FR 53131, Oct. 10, 1997, effective Dec. 1, 1997]

Please help prevent these common after-allowance problems that delay patent publication:

- **Prevent after-allowance IDS problems:** If the Examiner has not considered and provided initialed copies of ALL submitted IDS PTO-1449 papers in the first action, please bring this omission to the attention of the Examiner in the next response. In many cases, recent delays with the U.S. Postal system have caused problems receiving and matching IDS statements with the file wrapper, particularly when IDS material is voluminous and submitted in one or more boxes. Only non-patent literature and foreign patents need be submitted as paper copies. The Examiner has ready access to U.S. patents in electronic and paper form – please do not send paper copies of U.S. Patents listed on your PTO-1449. The optional submission of IDS material in CD-R format (PDF, WORD, or ASCII) is encouraged and appreciated by the Examiner of record, but is not required by current rules.
- **Prevent problems created by a paper APPENDIX to the SPECIFICATION: §1.96(c)** The originally-filed paper computer program listing will not be printed as part of the patent. Microfiche submissions under the former rule have not been accepted by the PTO since March 1, 2001. A computer program listing that exceeds 300 lines MUST be submitted on a compact disc in compliance with §1.52(e). The compact disc is optional for computer programs that do not exceed 300 lines. The compact disc listing must be an ASCII file. In addition, the specification MUST be amended to contain an incorporation-by-reference of the material on compact disc. See §1.77(b)(4). See also M.P.E.P. 608.05(a) “Deposit of Computer Program Listings.” Also consider the possible incorporation of your paper appendix as a table within the specification. See §1.125 Substitute Specification.
- **Prevent problems where the “Brief Description of the Drawings” section of the application does not EXACTLY match the actual figures submitted.** Please verify that your “Brief Description of the Drawings” section agrees EXACTLY with the figure numbers of your drawings, otherwise the application will be returned to the Examiner by the printer for correction. This will delay your publication date, should this application go to issue.

How to Contact the Examiner:

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **St. John Courtenay III** whose voice telephone number is **(703) 308-5217**. A voice mail service is also available at this number.

- All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:
**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231**
- Hand-delivered responses should be brought to **Crystal Park Two, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist)**. All hand-delivered responses will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. Please do not hand deliver responses directly to the Examiner.

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN PTO FAX POLICY:

- **AFTER-FINAL** faxes must be signed and sent to: **(703) 746-7238**.
- **OFFICIAL** faxes must be signed and sent to: **(703) 746-7239**.
- **NON OFFICIAL** faxes should not be signed, please send to: **(703) 746-7240**, or to Examiner Courtenay's desktop computer at **703-746-5472**.

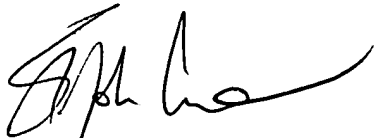
All OFFICIAL faxes will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. The date of entry will correspond to the actual FAX reception date unless that date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal Holiday within the District of Columbia, in which case the official date of receipt will be the next business day. The application file will be promptly forwarded to the Examiner unless the application file must be sent to another area of the Office, e.g., Finance Division for fee charging, etc.

To avoid ongoing Washington D.C. area mail processing delays, the Examiner requests that Applicant direct all communications to the PTO by fax. All incoming faxes are securely stored on PTO computers that are dedicated to fax reception. If you send a fax, please do not send duplicate papers via U.S. mail.

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- Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **TC 2100 Group receptionist: (703) 305-3900**.

Please direct inquiries regarding fees, paper matching, and other issues not involving the Examiner to: Technical Center 2100 CUSTOMER SERVICE: 703 306-5631

Normal Flex work schedule: Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM


**ST. JOHN COURTENAY III
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Paper #7